DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Robert Haldiman on 11/16/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) In a device receiving multiplexed, packetized input data

streams and outputting other multiplexed, packetized data streams, an output data

stream mapper comprising:

an interface with an input data stream;

a packet processor ~~configured to identify~~ identifying and ~~route~~ routing a selected

plurality of related packets;

a memory retaining at least one stored format table, said stored format table

having at least one stored set of input program numbers associated with at least one

stored set of output program numbers, said memory further being configured to retain a current PAT;

a mapping processor ~~configured to receive~~ <u>receiving</u> a packet from said packet processor, the packet being the current PAT from the input data stream, said mapping processor ~~being further configured to compare~~ <u>further comparing</u> at least one set of input program numbers in the current PAT to said at least one stored set of input program numbers in said stored format table;

said mapping processor ~~being further configured such that~~ <u>further outputting,</u> if the at least one set of input program numbers in the current PAT is the same as said at least one stored set of input program numbers in said stored format table, ~~then an output data stream is output~~ <u>an output data stream</u> having said at least one stored set of output program numbers from said stored format table; and

~~said mapping processor being further configured such that if the at least one set of input program numbers in the current PAT is not the same as said at least one stored set of input program number in said stored format table, then an output data stream is output having at least one reassigned output program numbers.~~

<u>said mapping processor further generating, if at least one input program numbers in the current PAT is not the same as any stored set of input program numbers in the stored format table, a new program numbers and then output another output data stream having reassigned output program numbers, said reassigned output program numbers having said newly generated program numbers.</u>

5-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The output data stream mapper of claim ~~6~~ 4 wherein said newly generated program numbers are generated by random number generation.

8. (Currently Amended) The output data stream mapper of claim ~~6~~ 4 wherein said newly generated program numbers are generated by incrementing numbers.

9. (Currently Amended) The output data stream mapper of claim 4 wherein said mapping processor ~~is further configured to receive a~~ further receiving the packet from said packet processor, the packet being the current PAT from the input data stream, said mapping processor ~~being further configured to compare~~ comparing an input PMT PID in said current PAT to a known PMT PID in said stored format table;

said mapping processor ~~being further configured such that~~ further outputting, if the input PMT PID in the current PAT is the same as the input PMT PID in the stored format table, ~~then~~ another data stream ~~is output~~ having output PMT PID from the stored format table; and

said mapping processor ~~being further configured such that~~ further outputting, if the input PMT PIDs in the current PAT are not the same as the input program numbers in the stored format table, ~~then~~ another data stream ~~is output~~ having reassigned output PMT PIDs~~; and~~

~~said reassigned output PMT PIDs being from said stored format table.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The output data stream mapper of claim 9 wherein said

mapping processor is further configured such that further generating, if the input PMT

PIDs in the current PAT are not the same as the input PMT PIDs in the stored format

table, then said mapping processor is configured to generate new PMT PIDs and then

output another data stream having reassigned output PMT PIDs, said reassigned output

PMT PIDs being said newly generated PMT PIDs.

13. (Currently Amended) The output data stream mapper of claim 4 wherein said

mapping processor is further configured such that further outputting, if the input program

numbers in the current PAT are not the same as the input program numbers in the

stored format table, then said mapping processor is further configured to output another

output data stream having reassigned output PIDs within the PMTs.

17. (Currently Amended) The output data stream mapper of claim 4 wherein said

packet processor is further configured to re-timestamp further re-timestamping output

packetized data streams.

18. (Currently Amended) The output data stream mapper of claim 4 wherein said

mapping processor is further configured for error correction.

33. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 32 wherein said mapping processor

~~is further configured to assign~~ further assigning new PIDs for input PMTs such that each

output PMT has a unique PID.

34. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 4 wherein said mapping processor

~~is further configured to check~~ further checking if an incoming program number

corresponds to a unique output program number.

35. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 34 wherein said mapping processor

~~is further configured to assign~~ further assigning a unique output program number for

each incoming program number.

Allowable Subject Matter

2.   Claims 4, 7-42 are allowed.

3.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 4 is considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the

specification (MPEP § 211.01) or In re Sneed, 710 F.2d 1544, 1548, 218 USPQ 385,

388 (Fed. Cir. 1983), none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose

or suggest the combination of limitations specified in independent claim 4, includes a

memory for storing program metadata PAT (supported at e. g. page 15, lines 15-20;

page 16, lines 8-21; page 19, lines 4-8), a mapping processor for receiving PAT from a

data stream (supported at e. g. page 16, line 23-page 17, line 14), the mapping

processor comparing the program number from the incoming PAT with the program

number of the PAT stored in the memory (supported at e. g. page 16, line 23-page 17,

line 14), when the program numbers are matched, uses the stored program number in

the output stream; when the program numbers are not matched, the mapping processor

generates a new program number in the output stream (supported at e. g. page 19,

lines 9-21).

The closest prior art (Wilson, Pub # 2002/0184649), teaches a hub includes

mapping processor and a memory stores PAT information. Kato (Pub # 2002/0041756)

discloses comparing stored program number with incoming stream program number.

However, the references taken singularly or in combination do not teach a system that

generating a new program number when the stored program number in the PAT and the

program number in the incoming PAT are not matched.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to JUN FEI ZHONG whose telephone number is (571)270-

1708. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30~5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Joseph Hirl can be reached on 571-272-3685. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JFZ
11/19/2009

/Joseph P. Hirl/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2426
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